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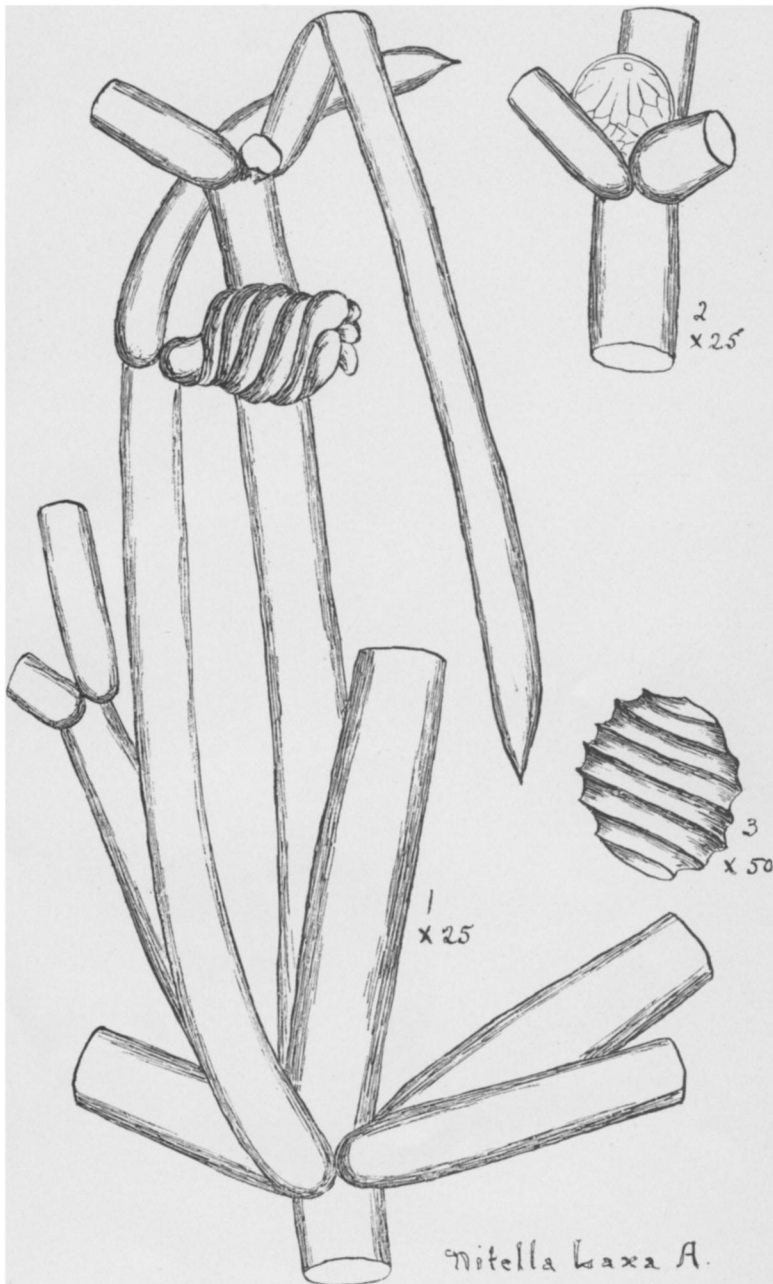
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NITELLA LAXA ALLEN.

A new Species of *Nitella*, belonging to the *N. flexilis* Series, with a
Review of the allied Species.

By T. F. ALLEN.

(PLATE 284.)

NITELLA LAXA n. sp.

Eunitella, *monarthrodactyla*, *furcata*, *homoeophylla*, *gymocarpa monoica*, *apiculata*.

Plants as long as thirty cm., or longer, diffusely branched, very flexible and translucent, bright green, of the habit and appearance of *N. flexilis*. Stem 500 μ in diam., verticils remote, becoming crowded above, of eight leaves. Leaves of lower sterile verticils long and flexible, once divided into two to four terminals. Leaves of the upper fertile verticils shorter, but still longer than the internodes, once divided; leaves vary from 300 to 430 μ in diam., once divided; terminals, one or two when fertile, two to four when sterile, one-celled, apiculate, about 250 in diam. Antheridia and oogonia single on the nodes of the leaves, the latter distinctly stipitate; coronula evanescent. Antheridium usually about 350 in diam., closely sessile. Oospore, 410 to 485 long, 400 to 460 broad with six prominent ridges; membrane covered with a thick close felt (grumous), yellowish red (usually mottled with red).

Collected in Yakushiji pond, Kyoto, Japan. (Plate 284.)

This species adds another to the "*flexilis*" group, which may be classified at present as follows:

N. flexilis, spore membrane smooth.

N. Californica A. }
N. Mexicana A. } spore membrane granular.

N. laxa A., spore membrane grumous.

Considered as to size.

N. Mexicana, a large coarse plant, has the smallest oospores, 275 long, with 5 prominent ridges.

N. flexilis, oospores 425, with 6 or 7 thin and sharp ridges moderately prominent.

N. laxa, oospores 485, with 6 prominent ridges.

N. Californica, oospores 585, with 6 or 7 thin and sharp ridges,